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A Journey In 1836

From New Jersey to Ohio

*Being the Diary of
Elizabeth (Lundy) Willson*

*Edited by
William C. Armstrong
Blairstown, New Jersey*

SHAWVER PUBLISHING CO.

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GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT

A Journal in 1856

by J. W. Alden

Author of

"The Journal of J. W. Alden"

BY J. W. ALDEN

1856

NEW YORK

1856

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Itinerary

GOING WESTWARD

Allamuchy, N. J.; Delaware Water Gap, Pa., Stroudsburg, Clifton, Coal Mountain, Hartford, New Milford, Great Bend; Broome County, N. Y., Tioga County, northward east of Seneca Lake, Ovid, Waterloo, Rochester, Genessee Falls, Batavia, Buffalo, Boston, Indian Reservation; Erie, Pa.; Conneaut, O., Ashtabula, Painsville, Madison, Cleveland, Tymochtee in Wyandot County, Ohio.

COMING EASTWARD

Indian Mill, O., Upper Sandusky, Little Sandusky, Marion, Norton, Delaware, Allum Creek, Berkshire, Sunbury, Alexandria, Granville, Newark, Brownsville, Zanesville, Norwich, Concord, Cambridge, St. Clairsville, Bridgeport, River; Wheeling, West Va.; Claysville, Pa., Vinton, Monongahela River, Mount Pleasant, Laurel Hill, Shippensburg, Harrisburg, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton; Phillipsburg, N. J., Belvidere, Hope, Allamuchy.

Recd Jan 11-1979

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Explanatory Note:—Elizabeth Lundy was born near Allamuchy, Warren Co., N. J., and there she grew up, in the community known as Quaker Settlement. She married Abner Willson in 1808; they had four sons and three daughters, each of whom lived to be old. Abner died in 1835. Their oldest son Jacob had married Bathsheba Pound Shotwell and had two children: Elizabeth who was in her third year, and Abner, who was not yet one year old. Then Jacob decided to try his fortune in the west; he had relatives living in Wyandot Co., Ohio, so he decided to settle there.

But it was his widowed mother Elizabeth who made the decision as to how Jacob would get to Ohio. She decided to go herself and take him and stay with him until he was located in his new home permanently. She determined to leave her three older unmarried children (Abijah aged 24, Joel 22, and Mercy 20), at home to keep the house and run the farm; this did away with any worrying about the folks back home.

But how about the younger three, Ezra aged 17, Lydia 15, and Belinda 13? She would take them along; Ezra was large enough to help drive and take care of the team going and would be the man of the party coming back; and the two girls in their teens could help at meal time when they dined out, and could relieve the mother and the grandmother in the care of the babies. This made a party of eight persons to go to Ohio, and a party of four to return to Jersey. The route chosen was through the Lake country in New York state in order to visit some friends there; the return trip was to be made through Pennsylvania. Viewed from any angle it was a well-planned journey. I have now explained the motive for the trip and the relationship of the eight persons.

A Narrative of our Westward Journey From New Jersey to Ohio

Allamuchy, 1836, 14th of 5th month.

7th day of week, 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

We now set out on our journey for the state of Ohio, being 8 in number; namely, Jacob L. Willson, Bathsheba his wife and two children, myself, Ezra, Lydia and Belinda, leaving at home children and friends who have manifested their attachment to and regard for us by their attention and kindness in assisting us for the irksome task.

Arrived at Aaron Lundy's just at the close of twilight where we were kindly received and entertained.

15th of 5th month,

1st day of week.

Pretty cold. Left Aaron Lundy's a little before noon and crossed the Delaware at Otter's ferry where I was tryed on hearing the rough unguarded language of those young men who ferried us over; and my heart was drawn forth to the Fountain of all Good on their behalf, and my secret breathings were that they might, like the Apostle Paul, see the light of divine grace over-shadowing them and turn to Him whom they persecuted.

It is 20 minutes past five P. M., and we are feeding our horses by the wayside in the Delaware Water Gap. While the family are regaling on their rice pudding, etc., I employ myself in writing; my appetite is very poor, and home clings

fast to my throbbing bosom altho the beautiful works of a benignant providence has had some effect in dispelling the gloom with which I have in some measure been surrounded. The roads are dry and dusty which has had a tendency to increase a cough which has just commenced in consequence of having taken a heavy cold.

At 9 o'clock we arrived at Silas Flager's in Stroudsburg, Pa.; I felt much indisposed and went to bed but I slept only a little.

16th of 5th month

When morning arrived I felt unable to travel so I concluded to stay and see how it turned. I thought if I felt no better next morning I should return home; my head and stomach were in much pain and I could not sit up much.

17th of 5th month

By a blessing attending the unremitting endeavors of my children and friends, morning found me better, and we concluded to pursue our journey.

The country is both hilly and stony, and the soil very thin. We came to the turnpike and find the roads better. I think if the people had no means of procuring a livelihood here but by farming they could not exist; the timber is small and the earth is almost covered with stones, in many places quite, yet we find some spacious buildings.

Here we saw a man appearing like a Friend, who spoke in the language of encouragement respecting the journey before us and concluded our horses were fit for the task allotted to them. We

stopt to feed by a brook by the way side; I feel some better and eat a little.

From this hill which we have some time been ascending, we can catch some glimpses of our own native land:

My native land, dear native land,
We've passed thy billowy brook;
With pencil in my trembling hand
I've gazed the farewell look.

Yet still these orbs exert each nerve
To gain the last sad glance
Of dear New Jersey's peaceful shore
As slowly we advance.

Yes, from this barren lonely mount
Thy fertile shores I view;
With faltering accents, trickling tears,
I bid thee long adieu.

This is a most barren desolate land, as uninviting as I have ever seen. We traveled along for a good while without seeing a human creature; and it is but few of beasts, birds or mortals we saw for miles. The timber and shrubbery were so crowded in heaps along the roads that cattle could not in many places pass thru; and indeed I could see nothing to induce them to make the attempt. Put up at Naglesville.

18th of 5th month

We pursue our journey and come to a village called Clifton where is a gate; toll 43 cents. Here there are some improvements, tolerable houses, but the earth is almost covered with stones. These people are well suited to the place:

They're rough in manners, unimproved by grace;
Their oath disturbed me in my musing rest,
As no restrictive power they possessed.
Oh saddening thought, both hoary age and youth
Live thus unguarded by the power of truth.
Sweet Jesus' words to fond remembrance call
Whose strict injunction was "swear not at all."

After passing on some distance, we stop and feed, and then set out again. After going nearly a mile, Bathsheba missed her bonnet which she had laid on the box while engaged with the babe and her dinner. Jacob went back in search of it. This time was spent in some anxiety; partly for fear he would not find the bonnet, and partly because we were exposed to the rays of the burning sun on a high hill.

Yet it was to me a time to be remembered as I was led to view again the scene which presented and to confirm the opinion which I had partly formed in a less thoughtful time. After viewing a little I was bowed in humility before the Creator of the earth who formed this dreary region as well as the most fertile plains and had pronounced it all "good." And wherefore should I, poor and feeble dust, dare to conclude it was fit for nothing; no, not fit for his noble creature Man to fix his habitation in. In this situation I was again induced to crave heavenly aid to support us and to help us form our judgment of surrounding objects.

While I was thus contemplating, Jacob returned with the bonnet, with strict injunction to observe more care in laying things in proper places.

From Clifton we found it more inhabited; we came into the beach where people were clearing, building, etc. Here it looks discouraging in the extreme for not much presents to the eye but logs on logs and stones on stones. In some places they have thrown them in heaps; and yet one can scarcely see the earth. I felt much sympathy for these people and was ready to conclude with the Queen of Sheba that "the half had not been told me."

And often did I realize the words of the poet as I made my remarks on the toiling sons of the forest:

Ah me! how little knows the human heart
The pleasing task of soothing others' woe,
Stranger to joy that Pity can impart
Or tears sweet Sympathy can teach to flow.
The splendid dome, the vaulted roof to rear,
The glare of pomp and pride, be Grandeur,
thine;
To wipe from misery's eye the falling tear
And sooth the oppressed orphan's woe, be
mine.
Be mine the blush of modest worth to spare,
To change to smiles affliction's rising tide,
The kindred warmth of Charity to share,
Till joy shall sparkle in the tear-filled eye.

We are now ascending, or rather winding round, a high hill; Jacob says it is Coal Mountain; the heights above and the depths below presented an awful appearance; that above looked as if it were ready to fall and crush all beneath; while the gulf below which was vastly deep and

perpendicular appeared ready to receive into its watery bosom the passenger who might make a stumble.

In one place a large stone had escaped from its bed and lay in the edge of the road; the horses were some afraid of it. We were all out but Ezra. I walked some distance, but they were not willing I should as it made me to cough much worse. Here as in many other places we get wintergreen which I think has a good effect in easing my cough.

From here we went to a little village where we called at a Dutchman's tavern to know how far to the next. On being told it was two and a half miles we thought best to proceed. They urged us to put up saying we could not do better. But as we still hesitated an aged blackman came and officiated in behalf of the landlord; says he, "You cannot do better; here is good accommodations. It will be dark 'ere you get to the other tavern. I spose you wont bleve cause nigger tell you so; but I knows you can't do better." But having a few minutes sun left I felt anxious to pass on and urged the necessity of it, to which the poor black seemed to hearken without much more persuasion.

We went to Centerville where we found good accommodations for which we were charged 10 s. 6 d, but in changing we paid 9 s. 6d. (This discrepancy arose from the curious fact that in those days the word shilling when used in Pennsylvania expressed a different value from what it did when used in New Jersey; the landlord named his charge according to local usage, but 9 s. in

N. J. was the same as 10 s. in Pa.)—Editor.

19th of 5th month

We have heretofore got our supper in the houses where we put up; this makes our bill high.

We leave Centerville, feed at Abington Center, a small village, pass several others, and come to Wallville where is a gate, paid toll 25 cents; we had passed one before this day and paid 20 cents and one yesterday 16 cents.

We now feed by the way side at a lovely little brook of good water with which this country much abounds. Their land is not very fertile, but it seems as tho they had a goodly heritage for they have the upper and nether springs. Not many inhabitants; we have seen no movers; saw one wagon which appeared like travelers. Near sunset we pass Hartford village, very neat place with a meeting house and a steeple on it, about four and a half miles from New Milford, Susquehanna County, where we put up for the night at Mott's Inn.

20th of 5th month

We again resume our journey, pass Hadenville, come to the Great Bend and see the bridge. We turn to the left and pass along the river as it winds its way till we came in sight of Shennag Point (on the other side of the river) which makes quite a show.

Jacob jumped out of the wagon and with hurried steps climbed the hill before us; which when we had ascended we found him standing near a house; he said he had the tea kettle nearly boiled. Here we took our tea, chocolate, etc. In traveling thus far I have not enjoyed anything

with much pleasure, for my poor state of health has rendered the journey very toilsome; I am too weak to walk and I cough very much.

We put up at a new inn, being the first guests they had entertained, their sign having been raised the evening before.

21st of 5th month

We are passing thru Broome County, N. Y. Altho I am ready to conclude that I shall never get thru to the end of my contemplated journey, yet I feel resigned whether life or death. We still continue to travel thru a finely watered country; and from these crystal fountains we partake freely of the cooling beverage. Oh, may our hearts ever abound with grateful acknowledgments for the many favors bestowed on us in this perilous journey; may the tongue of the base and licentious never awe me to silence in this or any further period of my life; but may I be renewedly animated by their reprobate lives to render unfeigned adoration and praise to Him to whom it is due.

We ferried the Susquehanna. I got out to walk down the bank and stood behind the wagon and held to the feed box. I felt quite composed tho when I lookt in the river it made my head swim very much, as the water ran so swiftly. We staid in Tioga County.

22nd of 5th month

We set out on the first day of the week. In passing the village we see many gathering to their place of worship, but their proud looks and costly decorations denote any thing rather than a spirit of humility capable of worshiping Him who calls for the whole heart and who hath prom-

ised to be nigh to them of a contrite heart; the humble and meek also are those who can worship acceptably. I think the stumps and stones with which their land is well nigh covered might induce them to exhibit a more humble appearance.

We had a little rain the last two nights; and the clouds look portentous of rain.

23d of 5th month

We are passing thru a very fertile tract of land handsomely situated and well cultivated; wheat, rye, corn, oats and clover fill one field after another; the people look as if they enjoy the good of their labor, their houses being neat and some of them elegant. We take another road; we pass thru Ovid and come to bad roads; we find there has been much rain from which we have been clear which is an unexpected favor and for which I have many times felt thankful. We again feed and refresh ourselves by the way side near a cottage, very humble but perfectly neat, where much kindness is shown to traveling strangers. I was invited to go in and lie on the bed and rest me; altho I was much in need of rest I declined to accept her offer, as time would not admit of much rest.

From here we pursued our course to Waterloo and arrived at my kind brother-in-law Asa Willson's about 7 o'clock where care and kind attentions are not wanting to relieve my afflictions. This was a hard day's journey in consequence of bad roads.

But Friendship, thou soother of pain
How often I've witnessed thy power,

But never more cordial thy reign
Than now in this sore-trying hour.
When the frail sinking frame seeks relief
From a cold and unfeeling heart,
Then the bosom all weighed down by grief
Oft freely partakes of the smart.
May praises hence forward to Him sweetly sound
Whose mercy to His never ends;
And thankfulness ever in each heart abound
Who is blest with such kindness and friends.

In this neighborhood we paid some truly cordial visits in which brother-in-law Asa and his wife bore us company. Among these visits Godfrey Hess was one; he did not know me, yet on finding who I was he gave me a hearty welcome; his wife knew me; and they were as much pleased, I think, as if I had been one of their family. I also went to see my dear uncle Benjamin Shotwell and his wife, who considering their age were in good health; and cheerfulness prevailed in their dwelling. I also went to their son Thomas Shotwell's whose tender sympathy will not easily be forgotten. We were all this week visiting our friends here; it was quite rainy.

28th of 5th month

We set out in the rain for David Willson's where we arrived near evening wet enough; but with open hearts, close attention and good fires we were soon made comfortable. We had to take in part of our load, open and dry them before the fire.

29th of 5th month

It was still rainy; towards night it faired

away. On third day, 30th, we made two visits; on fourth day, 31st, we pursued our journey for Rochester. We went to brother Benjamin's who lives with his son-in-law William Jackson. We staid all night and again resumed our journey.

1st of 6th month

We went to Rochester City; we sat in the wagon while Jacob transacted some business; this is a place of business and is fast improving. We left here about noon.

We went to see the Falls of the Genesee River. Here one may view the works of all creative Power which formed the heavens and the earth and the fountains of water. Here the rocks appear to be wearing and breaking away under the dashing of the torrent whose white foam, reflecting the sunbeams, presents a rainbow to our view. This sight was not only sublimely grand but instructive, in which he that runs may read a lesson to his heart.

We find bad roads in this land, high waters and the bridges washt away; here we find loggy causeways in earnest; certainly in these New York can boast a superiority over any place I have seen. But for all the logs there is in some places mud as deep as we wish to find. Here certainly I thought I had found some swamps, but the folks positively assert they are not but they may be made to produce excellent wheat in two or three years. And as I do not wish to contend, I leave them to enjoy their own opinion, and they can not prevent me from enjoying mine; if I find nothing to attract me more than I have hereto-

fore, I will conclude that I have been somewhat misinformed.

We arrived at Zachariah Shotwell's about ten o'clock at night. I find my cough abating tho I feel feeble. I have walkt a little again. We have been here nearly a week and have visited most of our friends in this place.

8th of 6th month

We set out for Buffalo. We pass Batavia; here they are building a fortification to defend their land office. The roads are getting better; two teams pass us today moving to Ohio. We put up at an inn with three loads of movers.

9th of 6th month

Set out again; we saw more movers today; one of their wagons was loaded very full; a chest stood in the front of the wagon; on that or above it, the woman with two small children had a seat and carried an umbrella over them.

At ten o'clock at night we arrived at William Hampton's at Boston; we visited our friends here, among whom my brother-in-law Eber Willson who with his wife and children received us with hearty kindness.

16th of 6th month

We again pursued our journey. In passing thru the Indian Reservation we found a pocket-book containing six dollars and some cents; it lay in the road. A little way further Lydia saw a large pocket-knife lying by the road side which we also took up. We went on and came to West Lodi; there Jacob spent some time endeavoring to get information how to proceed with the pocket-

book. After some time they came to the conclusion it was best to place it in the care of Judge Spencer who was postmaster who allowed him a dollar out of the pocket book for his trouble. This with the sound of several people of Jacob's being an honest man and not willing to keep the owner from his right, was of more value to me than all the money would have been. The Judge gave Jacob a receipt and told him if it was not called for and proved in a short time, he would remit him thereof. The Judge accordingly wrote him by mail and informed him that the owner had come and got his money. He wished Jacob to send him the receipt which he did; these letters cost no postage.

Here we had a hard hill to pass over, nearly three miles ascending; roads middling good but very dusty. Put up; had a little shower.

17th of 6th month

We pursue our way which with the wind and warm sun soon became very dirty; sometimes we could see very little more than a cloud of dust. We past Westfield. Toward evening we saw a shower rising which made us urge forward; we got quarters 5 or 6 miles from the Pennsylvania line; had considerable rain.

18th of 6th month

A one-horse wagon hailed us today to know whither we were bound; after hearing, he said they were going to Medina County, Ohio, and if he could not get suited there, he would come to Crawford.

We set out again and came into Pennsylvania; we ascend a hill where the water trickles

from the rocks till it looks and sounds like rain. Here we find some good grain; one field of wheat is in head; this is the best we have seen. Some corn looks good; other is so poor it looks as if there would be nothing but stalks, and but little of them. This afternoon we pass some land as good as I've seen; tho the farms appear new, they are well filled with grain.

We saw a family who said they were from Dutchess County; they looked bad, extremely so. They are both ragged and dirty yet exhibit much courage. The little fellows trudge along very cheerfully altho they show their knees and elbows, and some are bareheaded.

This afternoon was exceedingly rainy; we came to a village and took shelter in a feeding shed which saved us from a soaking; we put up at a log tavern 20 miles from the Ohio line; a rainy night.

19th of 6th month

It is very rainy today also. We came to a hill which we ascended (I call these hills; but they tell me they are only creek banks; however they would be hills in Jersey) and in ascending the other bank found it hard work. The rain had made it very slippery; it was also very steep. When we arrived at the top, we found ourselves in the village of Conneaut. We had much rain today sometimes it came in torrents; this made traveling very irksome both to us and to the horses for whom I often felt much anxiety.

We came to a brook whose bridge had floated away in the rising stream. Two men at a barn saw us and followed us to the water; they

went into the water nearly to their knees and found where it was safe going; then they stood one on each side till we passed safely through without any difficulty; we came to a bridge and drove into a shed to feed; it still rained hard.

While feeding a report was circulating that Ashtabula Creek was rising so rapidly that the bridge was in danger. A number of wagons, movers and others stop here on hearing the account; several people say they think the bridge is not safe. This gave us some alarm, not knowing how long we might be detained here and we began to wish we had gone over before feeding.

Jacob went to see; when he came back he said the creek rose nearly two feet while he was there and was still rising fast; said it was dangerous, he thought. Bathsheba insisted on trying. We hook up and set out. We met some men who were returning; one of them said he would not take his family into such jeopardy for one hundred dollars. We went onto the bank and stopt. Jacob went down. Bathsheba still insisted on trying.

We sat in the wagon and viewed the dashing torrent which forced along many saw-logs which it had torn from a neighboring saw-mill, and stumps of good size, and masses of corn and oats from the fields, and was carrying everything toward the lake. I said I would stay if they went; that I could not believe it was an act of either duty or prudence to rush into such eminent danger.

There were many people standing to view it; they say upward of fifty. Some tried to go through on horseback; one succeeded and went

twice through; it came up to the horse's shoulders; the other horses were afraid for the stream ran so swiftly they were scarcely able to keep their feet.

Jacob returned and said he was afraid to venture. For my part I felt determined not to go; yet I almost had a chill. We returned to the inn and put up with a number of others, about 30 in number; another inn of the town of the the same size was equally thronged.

20th of 6th Month

This morn it looks more favorable. The waters have abated so that all hands are setting out on their respective journeys; but I had given away so much to fear that faith had well nigh failed. Going forward we passed the water on the causeway and came to the bridge. I got out to walk over because the bridge had been condemned for some time. Although I saw two wagons go over before we got to it, yet I again became alarmed on seeing some men ride slowly over it for it trembled beneath them, but we all went safely over.

This great deluge broke many milldams which caused many fields to be inundated, bridges dislodged and traveling irksome. How vain is man! How vain is human knowledge! When compared with Omnipotence, 'tis nothing. How did my wavering heart shudder at the approach of danger and, forgetful of the many preservations heretofore experienced, give way to fear and doubting. Truly to me belong blushing and confusion of face! Oh may the Great Preserver and Searcher of Hearts still open my eyes to see His works, and my ears to hear the

When the ship is under way, the engine room is the most important part of the ship. The engine room is the heart of the ship, and it is the most important part of the ship. The engine room is the heart of the ship, and it is the most important part of the ship.

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in-speaking voice of infinite wisdom, and lead me in that path in which alone there is safety. In this time of tryal I was renewedly desirous that I might in future cast my care on Him who careth for the sparrows, and in this I found comfort.

This afternóon we find much sand. We came to a small creek and no bridge; they were erecting one but had not plank to lay more than half. They had a road through the stream and on the opposite side the bank was bridged up. Here we got out and walked over on the sleepers of the bridge.

Ezra drove till he came to the bridging of the bank. Then one hind wheel seemed to slip into a hole, and the loose rails gave way under the horses' feet, and they failed in rising with the wagon. They tried again and then one poor stick broke under their feet.

Jacob then went to a man at a sawmill near by who soon came with a yoke of oxen and hooked them to the end of the tongue and quickly extricated them from an unpleasant situation.

May thankful hearts henceforth be found

And may Jehovah's praise abound

Both on the land and sea!

Oh may we ne'er forget that power

Who guards and guides in every hour

All those that faithful be!

The broken heart and sinking mind

He'll condescend to raise and bind;

He'll save the contrite heart

If but an eye of faith they'll cast

On Him whose mercy's ever-last

And choose the better part.

We had no rain today to wet us. We passed through Painsville and walked over the Grand River bridge which was long; we put up at J. Rider's Inn, a mile beyond the village.

22nd of 6th Month

Still cloudy but does not rain. We again came into company with two of the movers who had left us at Buffalo; they, as well as we, had been visiting friends; since they left us they had lost a horse and bought another; one of the men said he was glad it was no worse; they all appeared pleased to see us again.

We passed Richmond; saw more movers. We saw three loads of movers who had spread their tents and encamp't by a house not far from Ash-tabula; they carry their tent poles with them. Jacob had seen them near Rochester and they told him their whole route would be about 1200 miles; he forgot where they were from.

We see a great many movers now every day; one team which had only a man and a little boy not more than five or six years old. We pass sandhills where they have had to make log-causeways over them; and one hill where the road was cut through it; the cut was built up on each side with logs to prevent its washing down. Put up three and a half miles short of Cleveland; it looks showery but not much rain.

23rd of 6th Month

We pursue our way through Cleveland, crossing the river on a covered bridge, a well constructed affair.

We still find good water. I have been very particular to notice the water since we came into

Ohio for I had heard such bad accounts of it. In some places it is not very good, but mostly as good as any in New York state; and often much better than any I found there.

Although it is very sandy, we find some good grain and potatoes; harvest looks promising. They are improving rapidly here, building fine houses, although their land is in a very rough state, with stumps and some with logs. I was ready to pronounce them proud; at other times I felt a little more charitable and concluded they sought to enjoy the good of their labor. Some are yet under the necessity of inhabiting very humble cottages; but some of these are what I would call hospitable mansions. I like their plan of building better than our Jersey fashion; they plan more for convenience and ease.

The roads this afternoon were bad, being clay and much worn into deep ruts and holes. Put up at a log inn. It was rainy through the night and it came down on the bed where Bathsheba and the children were, until I found it and waked her.

This morning it rains hard and we are waiting for the rain to abate. It has been quite cold for several days, so that mornings I have been cold with my cloak on.

Passing on we find that road extremely bad in places and it continues to grow worse until it presents a scene almost beyond description. In some places the horses are in water to their knees; in others they are stumbling over log bridges that are so uneven that it sends one from side to side; and here I was sometimes hard

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ORLANDO, FLORIDA

beset to keep myself and Ezra on the seat. The rest are out walking.

The people here tell us that never before have they had such a rainy time. We were passing a man and Jacob says, "You keep very muddy roads, I think." The man lookt with disdain at being thus accosted, and then said, "There would be mud anywhere if it had rained 60 days and 60 nights, too." They tell us it has been raining for four weeks.

The abundance of traveling with four- and six-horse teams wears the road into deep holes; these we call chuck-holes; some of them take the wagon to the hubs. In this manner we wore along through this dismal prairie till we got out to the pike which we crost; and having a little sunshine we concluded to go as far as we could.

Not finding public entertainment, we tryed at two private dwellings, but all made reasonable excuses. We went several miles after dark. Jacob went on before; Ezra drove after him; sometimes in the woods we could hardly see him. At last we reacht another log house. Jacob went to the door and after awaking them asked for entertainment. They said their house was small and their family large, and that they could not take us in. Jacob then asked for liberty to drive into the barn. They said he might, and gave him leave to cut grass for the horses in the joints of the fence; and as he had no cythe, they gave him a sickle with which he got plenty of grass to last all night, of which I was truly glad for my heart was pained to see their excessive exertion.

We commenced preparing our lodging; and

after removing the loose luggage placed two of the seats together and found we could make a lodging there for part; we placed another seat on the bottom of the wagon. Bathsheba and her two children were in the upper hammock; Lydia, Belinda and self were in the lower one.

Jacob and Ezra took some things into the mow where with the straw they made themselves a commodious bed. There was no door to the barn; so we hung a cloak at the foot end of the wagon which shut out most of the night air. We all slept sweetly. In this retreat I felt my heart drawn to render praises to Him to whom it was due, for our many preservations from shipwreck and for His continual favors in every day's journey and how we were still in his care.

With these impressions I dropt to sleep, and slept quietly till a while before day when the fowls which percht over our heads awaked me with their crowing. At this time I also felt engaged that the morning sacrifice should be offered up unto Him who had watched around our beds and by whose unerring wisdom we had been lulled to sleep beneath the covert of His wing; here the words of the Patriarch arose in my heart, and I could adopt his language, "Surely the Lord is in this place."

26th of 6th Month :

Had nothing to pay for entertainment last night. We prepared and set out much refreshed. The roads are still bad but not as bad as for two days past. After going for some hours we stopt near a house to refresh ourselves. While we were making ready, two Dutchmen came to the wagon to know where we were from and

whither going; after hearing they conversed awhile in their native language and then withdrew. It is a general rule for people to come to the wagon to hear these things.

We arrived at Enoch Willson's a little before sunset; here we found James Lunday and George Gibbs. James was going to set out in the morning for Jersey and George was going to his father's. Here we were kindly entertained.

27th of 6th Month

We set out again; we went to Levi Lundy's and took dinner. Toward night all left here but the two girls. Jacob, Bathsheba and the children went to Elisha Willson's; Ezra to John Lundy's for the night; and I myself to Jonathan Webster's.

28th of 6th Month

We all returned to the place of deposit which was an empty house of John Lundy's in his cornfield where they had planted a garden for us; and he told Bathsheba she might have three rows of potatoes by the house if she would hoe them. We now planted some peas, beans, corn, onions, coffee and tomtatoes; in a few days Jacob planted potatoes.

A Narrative of our Homeward Journey 1837

14th of 6th Month

We left Jacob Lundy Willson's near noon, after taking leave of our friends. Hannah and Elizabeth Lundy, Lydia and Belinda Willson went on foot to Aaron Lundy's; after conversing sometime with them, Henry Lundy joined the girls. Jacob also went with us some distance, and they still kept with us until we came to a better road; then they returned. After getting over the Sandusky river we found the road much better, got to the Indiam Mill, fed and bought one bushel of bran, 25 cents; we bent our course to Upper Sandusky, 3 miles, thru some beautiful plains of fat pasture; thence to Little Sandusky, 7 miles. This afternoon I have the sick headache severely which makes travel very irksome; we put up at Willson's Inn where the kindness of the landlady and family cheered the painful hours.

15th of 6th Month.

I feel better, for which I feel a degree of thankfulness which words can not set forth.

This day presented the first field of wheat in head, I suppose it contains 10 acres. We go through Marion, a small town, and are advancing toward Norton on the Mud Pike. This day has presented nearly one continuous scene, with only slight variations, of rich level plains which supply abundant pastures for the flocks, of which

there are vast numbers scattered upon it of almost every species. Here we saw many rabbits running in and out of the road in a lively manner, scarcely regarding us more than to get out of the way.

We see also beautiful fields of grain, the vegetation being here more forward than in Crawford; we pass Norton and put up at a private house in Mulberry township, Delaware County.

16th of 6th Month

Our road is muddy and cut up, but some better; we pursue our way to Delaware Town where we leave the pike and bear eastward for Granville, 33 miles.

Our large bolt broke, no harm ensued; Ezra, with a little assistance, put in a new one; we went a few miles and the lock chain broke; as I think these are the most exceptionable parts of our tackling, perhaps the rest will bear us thru. We went several miles to Berkshire where we got refitted with a new bolt and nearly a new chain for \$1.50; the smith and his wife were very kind; she spake well of the Quakers from her own acquaintance with them.

Before we came to Berkshire we past over Allum Creek, a most lively little stream, whose banks or walls are nearly perpendicular and laid up as correctly as I ever saw a wall; some places were not quite smooth but the whole scenery was not only beautiful but sublimely grand. "How beautiful" was the first thought that came to me as we pass over the bridge and see the walls which enclose this lovely rivulet. What could

be more beautiful! The water clear as crystal murmurs along over the pebbly bottom between solid walls many feet high, uttering in its whispering notes praises to the Adorable Being who thus guards the enclosure from harm. What tongue could be silent if the mind has ever reflected on the beauties of nature or the eye ever glanced over the works of Providence?

I could not view it enough without walking up the hill to take another survey; which, as lame as I was, I accomplisht leaning on the arm of one of the girls; and on arriving at the top, I could not help exclaiming again, "How beautiful."

Oh, how I love the unformed scene
Where naught but God's own finger's been;
For naught of human power or skill
Could e'er have framed this beauteous hill;
These smooth high walls of alumed slate
Display a power supremely great.

In passing these rural scenes, the following words were often in my mind:

"He sends His showers of blessing down
To cheer His plants below;
He makes the grass the mountain crown
And corn in valleys grow."

Thence to Sunbury (Delaware Co.); and it not being quite night we went on about three miles to Van Dorn's Inn where we were treated with much friendship.

17th of 6th Month

Again pursue our way to Johnstown (Lick-

ing Co.), a neat little village and improving; more humility in building than in many places. Next to Alexandria, then to Granville, and so to Newark. A few miles from this we put up at one Sutton's, a private house, but fine old people who appear as friendly as tho we were neighbors or acquaintances. Set out in the morning with the hearty good wishes of the old people for a safe and prosperous journey.

18th of 6th Month (Sunday)

Again we resume our journey and come to the National Pike a little before noon; pass thru Brownsville, thence to Zanesville, a handsome town or city, in which we went over a bridge which forks near the middle; it is the Muskingum River. This afternoon we fed in a village at the Inn of U. Headley, from Sparta, N. J.

Put up at an Inn where I was much annoyed by the oaths of some young men who had made too free with the glass and who staid near the barn for some time after they left the house. I am inclined to believe that the landlord was not clear of the same fault. He bemoaned his lonely situation in life during seven long years; he said while he had a companion every thing went well, since which nothing had gone well; he said he had sustained much loss in consequence thereof. I thought from every appearance it was a true statement. I slept little and rose early.

19th of 6th Month.

Somewhat rainy this morning. We pass Norwich and Concord, two small towns; the latter appears nearly new. We pass thru Cam-

bridge, thence to Washington just as the twilight was spreading her dusky mantle over the moistened earth. We went about a half mile and put up at a Thompsonian Doctor's Inn, who was very kind and obliging. This morning for the first we take breakfast before we set out. The landlady said there was tea-water enough for us both; and she gave me some ointment for my ankle.

20th of 6th Month.

It is still cloudy and cold. Today we have passed thru Elizabethtown, Middletown, Morristown, Loydsville and Clairsville; we came 2 miles and put up at a private house 8 miles from the Ohio River; we had grass plenty for the horses and one bed; we were charged 3 bits for the staying.

21st of 6th Month.

We again pursue our journey and come on some few miles where we found 8 families moving; some were from Warren County, N. J., and some from Hunterdon. They were taking breakfast on the ground beside their wagons where some if not all of them had slept. Several of the men rose and came to talk with us; tho we were strangers to one another yet friendship was shown to us from every quarter.

Tho' I mark in each mile as I pass o'er the earth
My steps are far distant from the land of my
birth;

Yet friendship's bright beams so resplendently
burn

In each heaving bosom; with devotion I turn
And offer up praise to that fountain divine

Who hath guarded around me and bade me incline
To the way of His pointing; yea, bade me not fear
Nor rely on man's wisdom, but trust in His care;
In which I find comfort and strength to pursue;
Tho' the way is oft lonely, the promise is true.

We came to Bridgeport, and took the right hand road to the ferry about a mile. The ferry was a steam-flat by which means one goes over much sooner than at the other ferry which is called the rope ferry, and I like this better than the rope one; the cost was 25 cents. We now moved on slowly thru Wheeling in Virginia, a very black smoky-looking town, considerably large; but the whole city and its contents have partook largely of the smoke from the coal they burn, and by which much of their business is performed; their mills, iron works and most of the other work is done by steam.

We put up at Clayville, a small town in Pennsylvania, thru whose mountainous regions we are now progressing; the people are very kind; this is the first time we have put up at a village; a neighboring inn-keeper came over in the morning to see us.

22nd of 6th Month

We have now passed thru the country for some distance without having found where to rest the sole of the foot; but have seen abundance where I should not care to dwell; but I have seen many beautifully situated farms which I should be content to call home if I possessed; but these most probably call for money to put one in possession of them. This, I think, is good

land, well-watered, well-cultivated, and the produce looks well.

We came to Washington, a spacious city. In the suburbs I saw two women who had immigrated from Trenton, N. J., nearly a year ago with the hope of getting rich soon and easy. The older woman said, "You can't get rich here; and it is so nasty you can't dry your clothes out of doors in the winter at all for the cinders and smoke from the stone coal; and we have to break all the water to wash with for we can not catch any rain water. We had never heard of breaking water in Jersey; and we could not conjecture what must be done to water to break it."

Said the younger woman, "We did not like to expose our ignorance so much as to ask; we thought perhaps it would come about in time, which was the case." She laughed and seemed more cheerful than her mother, tho pining under the same afflictions.

Said she, "Mother talks so strong sometimes I think she is going tomorrow, but she does not get started."

It appeared they did not know how to stop and let us go; they were really homesick.

We pass on and take another pike road which is shamefully bad. By direction of the gate-keeper we went to Dutch John's to put up; these are very kind people. Tho the woman could not talk much with me yet she tryed; and she made me one of her equals in fare. If she could not discourse, her little daughter was a good interpreter for us.

When they took their supper, she sent me a

good dish of coffee with a warm cake buttered; for which and for all these numerous favors I feel bowed in humility before the throne of Him whose mercies never end and from whom alone these mercies emanate; may thanks and praises be ascribed by me to that ever adorable Power which has been near to strengthen and support in this proving season, as well as at other times and which has not suffered any to offer the least insult, not even those inebriated wretches whose limbs could scarce support them. No, these have looked on me with a degree of respect unusual in people of these habits.

Dutch John played a tune of organs for us; on lighting us to bed he showed us how to lock the door and then withdrew.

23rd of 6th Month

Set out again; the road is still bad but we think it is some better. We find this a very hilly part of the world. We came to Williamsfort and then down to the Monongohala River; we were ferried over in a flat by a kindly discouraging young man; we stopt to feed by the way side near a house and a spring of water. Bathsheba went into the house and made tea and came back to the wagon. She was soon followed by a little girl with a tea-cup of milk and four fine radishes; these were very acceptable. A day or so ago a little girl brought a cup of cream for our tea. Still friendship and kindness follow us in our pilgrimage, for which I ardently desire to be humbly thankful to the gracious Author of all our mercies.

As we were just going to ascend a hill I

cast my eye over my left shoulder where I saw a large family grouped below the roadside; a brook presented, and the mother was in the act of washing, and she appeared to have a large wash on hand, while the father was engaged with the little prattlers on the ground. A little from them stood a small one-horse wagon apparently full; we judged the horse had been turned out to procure something to eat.

We arrived at the Youghiogheny River, cross this on a bridge and put up at a Temperance Inn where we were entertained with marks of good will and kindness.

After going into the chamber, as I approached the bed, these words came very fresh in my mind, "Thou God, seest me." I soon after heard them begin to sing; I listened to them. The man read a chapter in the Bible and then went to prayer; most of this I heard distinctly and I felt as if my spirit commingled with theirs. On waking in the morning, these words arose, "Oh that all would praise the Lord for His goodness, for His mercy endureth forever."

24th of 6th Month

Cloudy; sprinkled a little. Past thru Mount Pleasant at the extremity of which we stopt to feed at the dwelling of a German widow with eight children. We bought a loaf of bread. When we first asked her she concluded she had none to spare; but before we set out she came and asked what we would give for a loaf; we told her we would give her what other people asked; she then said she had sold one a few days ago for 20 cents; I told her we had paid from 18 to 25; she

went and brought the loaf and asked if I thought 20 cents was too much. I told her "No, I am willing to give it." We found it very good.

Came over Chestnut Ridge and met a number of movers from Chester County, Pa. Past thru Donegal and put up at the Big Spring on Laurel Hill, which was superintended by a young man and two sisters with an aged grandmother. The grandmother was in her 88th year but was quite smart; she said she had been working in the garden for most of the time for two weeks but the rainy weather had made the weeds grow so fast she could hardly keep even with them. She lay down on the floor to rest her, saying this would rest her better than the best bed.

25th of 6th Month.

This morning is so smoky that one can not see any distance. After going some miles we met a load of movers who hailed us with "Whoa, whoa, whoa! Have you been out and are you going back?" Ezra answered "yes." With some rough language the man asked, "What's the matter? Don't you like it?"; and out he came from his wagon, and his wife also. On telling him we did like it, "Well," said he, "We met a load of movers who had been to Ohio and they gave us an unfavorable account of the country; they said the people could not get a living there and much more to the same import."

After hearing what we had to say on the subject, he clapt his hands on his sides and thus exprest himself, "Well, I feel better now; when I heard what the others said, I felt bad, sick and in pain; but now that I have heard your story it makes me feel better, for I believe what you

say is true." The woman seemed much pleased and was very earnest to be informed.

The man said, "My gals are all boys and are just fit for the woods;" and that he would not move back for a year any how, for in that time he would know whether he would like it." He said that a family he had talked with before had been to Ohio but never unloaded their goods nor even lookt for a place; staid for a few days and turned back. One family which we had met and talked with said they had seen them and that they both cryed because they had left without looking about to see if any place would appear more pleasant; they said they were from the lower part of Jersey and that they would go to work for one year and earn what they could and go again.

Past thru Somerset, a smart little town, and the stillest town I've seen in all this journey; for some distance in the neighborhood all seemed quiet. Stopt and fed.

A Dutch woman came toward the wagon and asked Ezra to help her man hive a swarm of bees; Ezra went, and while that was doing, the girls led the horses around to eat grass by the road side. Put up at the foot of the Alleghany Mountain.

26th of 6th Month.

Ascending this mountain is quite a disappointment, agreeably so; for as a man told us, "It's nothing but a bank, neither long nor steep." We pick some strawberries along the way; the road is very winding; I do not know that I ever saw a road wind more than this. Put up at

Herr's Inn; he appears to be a man of note and well informed.

27th of 6th Month.

This morning we set out in the rain; the old man said: "An early rain and an old woman's dance don't last long;" but it has rained considerably fast all the forenoon; we went over two branches or parts of the Juniata River. We are now mostly all the time ascending or descending hills, day after day. This afternoon we fed on the top of Ray's Hill where we bought a loaf of bread and quart of apple butter. We came over Sidling Ridge (Sidling Ridge puts me in mind of Shrewsbury, N. Y.), with its pine and sand till we came toward the top where the soil-earth is red and the lumber mostly chestnut or shrubbery; and then to Jacob Clause's where we put up; these were kind people, and the man appears like one of feeling. A man intoxicated was there but I saw he knew his place.

28th of 6th Month.

We are now ready for the next hill which is Scrub Ridge; at foot of this is McConnel's town. Altho these hills are not much cultivated and do not appear very fertile, yet frequently the rugged rocks impart a healthy enjoyment refreshing to the weary traveler, and in many places they produce a rich luxury where poor toil-worn beasts may rest their weary limbs for the night. How often I look at them, our own and others, with much sympathy and feeling to see what drudgery they are exposed to; and many of them, after toiling all day, are suffered to stand out in the

storm all night; for these I feel sorry and wish for them to have more feeling owners.

We are now slowly progressing up the gradual ascent of Cove Mountain, which is long and tiresome. The Alleghany is not to be compared with this; I was much disappointed with the appearance of it. Cove Mountain is 8 miles over; at the foot of it is the village of Loudon. We went through Campbell's town which is small, but the people appear as proud as if they lived in a splendid city. Put up a few miles from the town; the landlord is quite accommodating; but the daughter (as I judge her to be) and her hired girl appear as though the wagoners were much more agreeable company for them; I should be quite free to their having them; I shall never envy these young men their pleasure.

29th of 6th Month.

Pass thru Chambersburg; thence to Shippenburg; we left the pike and came to a feeding place by a lovely brook near a small house and kind people. I sent Lydia to ask the woman for 2 or 3 onion tops; she sent us 4 fine onions which made us a fine relish. Put up at Cumberland Inn; kindness still shown to strangers.

30th of 6th Month.

We have past thru Carlisle which is a splendid looking place. We still shun the pike but have a pretty rough muddy road. What we do not pay in toll we pay in oats. Yesterday was quite rainy in the forenoon; it then faired away; and then came on showery and rained quite hard, which we could not find any shelter from for

some time. At last we found a shed and occupied it for some time; we then set out for the turnpike which we gained near Kingston, a small village. Put up at a stage house.

1st of 7th Month

Today we pass the Susquehanna River; the first bridge was long, the next not quite so long; and as we came out of the bridge we found ourselves in the town of Harrisburg, a neat elegant town. We leave the pike again and pass on for Jonestown.

Stopt to feed by the way side, and saw where a spring was running out of the ground; we opened it and found it good water which became clear as soon as we had finisht; of this we partook freely instead of tea of which we had been twice denied the privilege of boiling the kettle. Pass over Indian Town creek which empties into Sweet Arrow creek which is a large stream with muddy water; put up at John Uhland's, a German, but friendly and kind.

2nd of 7th Month.

I have now past over a large scope of Pennsylvania and I have not seen one farm that I covet. There are many large and good fields of wheat, rye, oats, corn, buckwheat and grass; many of them will not yield more than half a crop; some good, however. The prospect is such that I can not well account for the difficulty of getting bread. We passed Rehrersburg where all seems in motion.

Put up again with the Germans; here are a

large number of youths who are very merry. Although these are as kind and ready to oblige as any people; yet I sometimes get tired of hearing them talk because I can not understand them. Seeing so many about the house we were minded to sit in the wagon until Ezra got the horses put up; but the man came and urged us to come in. We got out and followed him away around the house into a nice little room, the furniture of which consisted of a stove, table, stand, several chairs and a spitbox. We were soon attended by a fine young woman with a candle; we talked a little and she then withdrew. Soon afterward the landlord came and talked some time; he brought us a book which gave an account of many curiosities found in Ohio; he told us to keep it in here and to read as much as we chose. On leaving, he showed us how to lock the door. I have sometimes been ready to query why it is that in this land of plenty, of ease and wealth, the traveler can scarcely procure a loaf of bread.

3rd of 7th Month.

Today, after several useless efforts to obtain bread, we find some good rye bread; pay 25 cents for it. Pass through Hamburg. Towards evening the wind blew pretty strong; and as we pass by some black cherry trees we see on the ground many that had been blown off; the girls pick up a fine lot of them. Put up at a German's.

4th of 7th Month.

Set out this morning with quite good cour-

age, thinking home not far distant. We pass thru Allentown.

We go over the river Jordan which is no more than a little brook; but they are building a splendid bridge over it a little above the one we crost. The bridge is large enough to span a river; but an old man told us that when they began to build it they had to draw the water for their mortar, the river not containing enough for their use, but they were going to erect the bridge to look fine by the town.

We next go over the Lehigh and pass on to Easton and over the bridge into Jersey and feed the horses. Ezra goes back and gets his watch cleaned. About sundown we set out for the next inn, about five miles; this made us arrive there after dark. When we arrived, Ezra made many fruitless efforts to obtain admittance; after wearying ourselves for some time Ezra drove under a wagon shed and we prepared to accommodate ourselves. Seeing a light a little way off in a house, Ezra went there and procured some hay, which, with the little oats we had, kept the poor horses busy most of the night. We prepared for sleeping in the wagon, but the noise of some cattle near by prevented our resting.

5th of 7th Month.

As soon as it is light, we hook up and set out. We come unintendedly to Belvidere, where we get oats and feed the horses; thence to Hope and feed again; we arrive at our long sought habitation before night which with the filial welcome received was truly comforting to this wearied form.

And here, though I feel at home, I miss some of the sweet enjoyments which are still congenial to the soil of the west; and which, tho I should never revisit those much-loved groves, will be held as dear to my heart as tho they had been enjoyed from an earlier period of life; for surely they are implanted where they can not be erased by the finger of time.

Here ends the Diary but to it I would like to append the following.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

Of Abner Willson and Elizabeth Lundy,

8th day, 6th month, 1808.

Whereas, Abner Willson of Independence, in the County of Sussex, in the State of New Jersey, son of Gabriel Willson, deceased, and Keziah, his wife; and Elizabeth Lundy, of the town and county and state aforesaid, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Lundy, deceased, having declared their intentions of marriage with each other before a monthly meeting of the Religious Society of Friends held at Harkwick Meeting House, according to the good order used among them, and having consent of the surviving parent and guardian concerned when said proposal of marriage was allowed of by the said meeting:

Now these are to certify to whom it may concern that for the full accomplishment of their intentions, this eighth day of the sixth month in the year of our Lord, one thousand and eight

hundred and eight; they, the said Abner Willson and Elizabeth Lundy appeared in the public meeting of the said people held at Harkwick meeting aforesaid, and the said Abner Willson, taking the said Elizabeth Lundy by the hand, did on this solemn occasion openly declare that he took her, the said Elizabeth Lundy, to be his wife, promising with divine assistance to be unto her a loving and faithful husband until death should separate them; and then in the same assembly the said Elizabeth Lundy did in like manner declare that she took him, the said Abner Willson, to be her husband, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto him a loving and faithful wife until death separate them.

And, moreover, they, the said Abner Willson and Elizabeth Lundy (she, according to the custom of marriage, assuming the name of her husband) did as further confirmation thereof, then and there, to these presents set their hands.

And we whose names are also hereunto subscribed, being present at the solemnization of the said marriage and subscription have as witnesses thereto set our hands this day and year above written:

Abner Willson
Elizabeth Willson.

Keziah Willson	Elizabeth Lundy
Anna Willson	Elizabeth Lundy
Benjamin Shotwell	Keziah Willson
Hugh Webster.	Sarah Adams
Gabriel Willson	Asa Willson
John Stevenson, Sr.	Amy Shotwell
Samuel Laing	Aaron Willson

Sarah Paterson	Thomas Shotwell
Rebekah Webster	Susannah Bunting
Martha Lundy	Daniel Webster
Eber Willson	Levi Lundy
John Stevenson, Jr.	Edward Webster
Mary Stevenson	John Webster
Bathsheba Shotwell	Levi Willson
James Shotwell	Margaret Paterson
Jane Schmuck	Job Decker
Mary Barkley	John Laing
Elizabeth Lundy	Anna Laing
Hannah Lundy	Joseph Lundy
Martha Pound	Dan Lundy

Concluding Comments:

Elizabeth Lundy Willson died March 16, 1838, less than a year after she reached home from her winter's sojourn in Ohio. Tradition asserts that her trip to the west was a "religious visit," which in Friends' language, means that her main purpose in going was to "speak" at Quaker meetings; but the diary contains no hint of such a motive. She was a Friend, a birth-right member, an Elder in the Society and a frequent exhorter at their meetings. There is no doubt that she attended every meeting for worship that she could, and also that she "spoke." Hence her moralizings in the diary are perfectly natural; hence also the numerous expressions of her faith in special providences.

The diary reveals her appreciation of the beauty and the grandeur of natural scenery; it also shows her evident fondness for dropping in-to doggerel verse; perhaps the rhyming relieved the monotony of travel.

Another obvious and characteristic feature of the diary can be easily explained. The Quakers had large families; and the question of bettering themselves and their children by removing to frontiers where land was cheap was always under earnest discussion.

For two generations colony after colony of Elizabeth's kith and kin had departed for distant regions; one group had settled at Independence, Va., one at Deep River, N. C., one in Ohio, one near Buffalo, N. Y., another near Pontiac, Mich., and another in Canada, at Lundy's Lane. No knowledge was so eagerly sought as reliable information concerning the physical features of the country, the drinking water, the roads, the crops raised, the fertility of the soil, the buildings, and the character of the inhabitants among whom the "movers" would find themselves. Hence Elizabeth's frequent remarks on these important topics.

The after fate of some of the parties named may be indicated briefly. The baby girl grew up and married, but died childless; the baby boy enlisted as a soldier (unmarried) in the Union Army and died in camp; Joel, (who had remained at home) married and removed to Seneca Co., Ohio; Ezra (who drove back) married and settled in Erie Co., N. Y.; Lydia married Jacob Riker and dwelt in Wyandot Co., Ohio; and Belinda married Joel Buckley and raised a family at Streator, Ill. Elizabeth undoubtedly foresaw that the far greater portion of her descendants would be Westerners; and her diary viewed his-

torically gives a vivid picture, day by day, of that endless stream of home-seekers who were pouring into the middlewest.

